

Abstract

An ossicle prosthesis (10), which on both of its ends has a first securing
5 element (11) and a second securing element (12) for mechanical connection to a
member of the ossicle chain and between the two securing elements has a ball
joint, which includes two struts (13, 13') which are solidly connected to the first
securing element (11) and between them enclose a gaplike space, in which a ball
(14) is pivotably supported in two recesses (15), in which the ball (14) is part of an
10 elongated shaft (16) that connects the two securing elements to one another,
characterized in that the elongated shaft (16) includes many balls (14, 14', 14'')
adjacent to one another, is displaceable through the gaplike space between the
two struts and through a perforation (17) in the first securing element, and one of
the balls, in a snapped-in position, snaps between the respective recesses, and
15 that the gaplike space can be made narrower between the two struts (13, 13') of
the ball joint for fixation of the shaft (16) after the desired length has been
adjusted. Thus a pivot point that is inexpensive to produce, for attaining
postoperative variability, and a shaft that is adjustable to an individual length are
both available, without having to keep prostheses of different lengths on hand and
20 without having to use complicated special tools for individually adjusting the length
during the implantation.